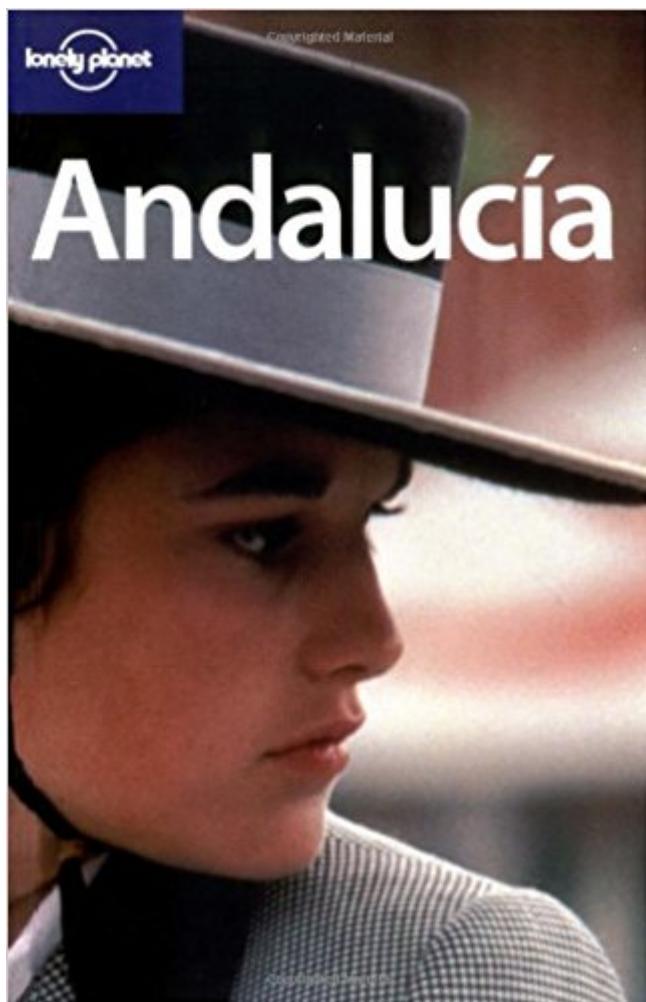


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# Lonely Planet Andalucia (Regional Guide)



## Synopsis

Ola! With its love of flamenco and zest for life, its sparkling coastline and rich and fascinating heritage, it's easy to see why Andalucía is Spain's most enticing region. Whether you want to roam the Sierra Nevada or simply unwind with a glass of sherry, our definitive guide gives you in-depth regional coverage for the perfect getaway. Make Your Escape and plan an Andalucian adventure for the whole family with our Itineraries and Highlights. The Know discover the region's hidden charms with details of tucked-away tapas bars, the locals' favourite bodegas and remote casas rurales. Walk It, Climb It, Surf It and hit the sierras or the sea with our chapter dedicated to outdoor activities. Be Dazzled by swirling dancers at a high-spirited fiesta and extensive festival. Uncover Andalucía's exotic legacy, from the Mezquita to the Alhambra, with a chapter on Islamic architecture.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

...for the adventurous traveler who wants to live like a native.' --Real Simple Magazine, June 2005

Who We Are At Lonely Planet, we see our job as inspiring and enabling travellers to connect with the world for their own benefit and for the benefit of the world at large. What We Do \* We offer travellers the world's richest travel advice, informed by the collective wisdom of over 350 Lonely Planet authors living in 37 countries and fluent in 70 languages. \* We are relentless in finding the special, the unique and the different for travellers wherever they are. \* When we update our

guidebooks, we check every listing, in person, every time. \* We always offer the trusted filter for those who are curious, open minded and independent. \* We challenge our growing community of travellers; leading debate and discussion about travel and the world. \* We tell it like it is without fear or favor in service of the travellers; not clouded by any other motive. What We Believe We believe that travel leads to a deeper cultural understanding and compassion and therefore a better world.

Does not have any information about Ceuta or Melilla but I can find other books. Excellent section on Gibraltar. The A-381 autopista is shown clearly on the map, from around Jerez de la Frontera to about Algeciras. This book could use a little more information on the Provincia de Cádiz, particularly in Puerto de Santa María, Jerez de la Frontera and Sanlúcar de Barrameda, however this book is not the latest edition, so this is something to look for in a more recent edition.

During our 3-weeks there (and for countless hours before going) this was our "Bible" and constant companion! Super helpful resource... in finding everything we were looking for, but also doing a great job of describing the underlying history and/or reasoning and/or "big picture" behind things that truly added the insights for us that made that experience so much more rich and rewarding! Andalucía is the birthplace of most things people think "Spain," like Flamenco, bull fighting, paella, dancing horses, whitewashed pueblos... and this book did such a beautiful job of helping us find and enjoy these tastes of Spain... for example, it took the time to describe Duende, this sort of dark passion that is at the root of Flamenco dancing and music, as well as the artists that made it an international love, and how the music so typically moves through emotions that reflect the history of the people that brought it to us. Highly recommend this one!!!

I've been using LP guide books to Europe ever since it came out with the first edition about 20 years ago, whenever I traveled independently on Eurail Pass, because of the comprehensive information found in the chapter of every country for travellers on a shoestring budget, esp. when it came to finding value meals and places to stay. This edition somehow deviated from the earlier format by summarizing the recommended accommodations in places of interest all together on a separate section of the book. Most of the recommended places to stay, aside from the Youth Hostels, have also gone upscale with more EEE's price code than E's, which were not budget at all, esp. considering the current strength of the Euro vs. the US\$. This 6th edition would be a helpful guide only to those who are not travelling on a shoestring budget. Considering this, Rick Steve's Spain 2011, which also included chapters on Southern Spain, is a good alternative.

We have been devoted purchasers of the Lonely Planet guidebooks since 1980. We have bought dozens of them since we are frequent long term budget travelers. We loved LP for that reason. Hence, the Andalucia book was a huge disappointment. It does little to suggest budget accommodation unless it is a dormitory. Further, the accommodation suggestions are all in the back of the book, not in the body as is the usual format for LP. We hated this, it was a complete nuisance as we constantly rummaged to find the accommodation associated with the city (only to learn it was unsuitable for our budget). This format also made it difficult to plan our itinerary as we traveled (we like to be spontaneous). In our month in Andalucia we managed to find good, reasonably priced accommodation via the internet but isn't that why we bought the guidebook? We cannot recommend this volume and hope it does not portend the future of Lonely Planet guides. If you are a budget traveler Rough Guides or Rick Steves would be better choices they recommend the areas to search out inexpensive accommodation). The emphasis on restaurants was a waste of paper since there is one on every corner. Nonetheless, we used the book extensively for the good job it does of telling you what there is to see and do (prices, hours, etc.).

This was supposed to be a brand new book. There are markings and highlights in it. **VERY DISSATISFIED WITH THIS VENDOR.**

I was traveling with three friends to Andalucia and we used the guide daily. The information that it gave on sites like the Alcazar in Seville or the Mezquita in Cordoba were invaluable in placing the monuments and cities in time, context, and importance. All of us, including the non-history-geeks of the group, loved the explanations and information on the sites, and someone was always asking "who had the book" at many points throughout the day. The guide was very nice to have along when we were looking for places to eat. We ate at least once a day at restaurants that were recommended and we were not disappointed at any meal. The map and distance guide at the beginning of the book were quite helpful in planning our trips as we stayed in the vicinity of Malaga and drove back and forth to Seville, Cordoba, and Gibraltar. They came in handy on the way back from Seville when we decided to detour to Ronda to see the Puente Nuevo. The maps also helped us decide where to park once we got into a city or provide us with directions when we didn't have a larger, more detailed map available to us. The only thing that we had a problem with was that the areas covered by the maps were too small for detailed driving instructions. However, it's a guide so that's to be expected. Pairing the guide and a GPS system would be ideal.

Lonely planet, which used to specialize in the off-beat and out-of-the-way, seems to have succumbed to the greatest-hits approach to travel books. The hotel and restaurant listings are still good but the rest of the content has become quite ordinary. Halfway through the trip we realized that we weren't even bothering to look at this book, and it spent the rest of the time in the trunk of the car.

Lonely Planet delivers on Southern Spain...a good guide for all ages, and most travelers (unless you're stinking rich or package tour fodder) I bought it in advance of trip for a bit of armchair preparation. This edition is not heavy ...it's a 488 page volume, weighing 10oz, packed with usual background, history, maps, and suggestions for accommodation, where to eat and drink, shopping, nightlife etc. Excellent buy.

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